

# Newport Mercury.

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## The Mercury.

THE MERCURY PUBLISHING CO.  
JOHN P. SANBORN, Editor.

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NEWPORT, R. I.

THE NEWPORT MERCURY was established in June, 1858, and is now in its one hundred and forty-second year. It is the oldest newspaper in the United States, and has been published in the English language, the oldest paper in the English language. It is a large quarto weekly of forty-eight columns, filled with interesting, reliable, editorial, State, local and general news, well selected, interesting and valuable for the business and household departments. Reaching so many households in this and other States, the Mercury is given a wide circulation and is very valuable to business men.

TERMS: \$2.00 a year in advance. Single copies in newspapers. Extra copies can be obtained at the office of publication and at the various news rooms in the city. Specimen copies sent free, and special terms given advertisers by addressing the publisher.

### Societies Occupying Mercury Hall.

MALDON LIDGE No. 33, N. E. O. P. John Allen, Warden; James H. Hubbard, Secretary; meets 1st and 3d Wednesday evenings in each month.

THE NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, James McFetich, President; Alex. McFetich, Secretary; meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings in each month.

REVEREND LADIES, No. 11, R. C. of P., Albert C. Choudron, Chancellor; Commander, Daniel P. Hull, Keeper of Records and Seal; meet every Friday evening.

DAVIS DIVISION No. 8, U. R. K. of P., Sir Knight Captain "Charles H. Ellis, Recorder; meets first Friday evening in each month.

## Local Matters.

### A Rumor Run Down.

No Truth in the Report that Rev. Charles E. Preston Has Been Seen Abroad.

Ever since the mysterious disappearance of Rev. Charles E. Preston of Jamestown, under circumstances which led to the belief that he had committed suicide, persistent reports have been circulated about the city, in which he is said to have been found in various places. During the past week a rumor has been freely circulated about the city to the effect that a lady residing in Jamestown had received a letter from a relative in Germany in which the writer expressed surprise at seeing Mr. Preston in that country.

This rumor was so generally heard that an effort was made to discover its authenticity with the result that it was proved to be entirely without foundation. A number of the prominent clergymen of this city set out to investigate and one of the number visited Jamestown on Thursday for the express purpose of interviewing the persons who had been named as the recipients of the letter. Mrs. Peter H. Ambrust, who has been most frequently reported as its recipient, stated that there was not a word of truth in it; that she had not received a letter from the person alleged to have sent it since last July and that the story connecting her name with the matter originated in Newport.

Mrs. Arnold and Mrs. Briggs, both of whom have been connected by the rumor with the letter mentioned, stated that they had not received any such letter, nor knew of anybody who had. The story arose without any foundation on fact.

This article is published in order that the foolish rumor may be set at rest. It has been persistently heard in all parts of the city and has found many who believed it. To this end it is better that it should be known as absolutely false. While there are some who are inclined to think that Mr. Preston may still live, there is no evidence to this effect.

### Want to Get Away.

The Portsmouth bar robbers who were recently sentenced to the State prison are apparently in a hurry to get away from there. Although the men were all separated and located in different workrooms there was still an attempt made at communication. Webster and a prisoner named Brown evidently had previous acquaintance and the prison officers intercepted a note on the way from Brown to Webster. The note contained explicit directions for an attempt at escape and assumed that others of the Portsmouth gang would assist.

The release of the note made the plot a failure and showed that the officers are on the alert. Webster was removed to another room and is under the strictest surveillance.

The desperate character of the men is well known to the prison officers and every effort will be made to retain them within the prison walls until their time is served. Their record in the Newport county jail is such as to preclude any possibility of the relaxation of vigilance on the part of the guards.

Dr. Wilson, for two years surgeon at the training station, has been relieved and ordered to report for duty on cruiser Dixie.

### Rural Free Delivery.

About a year ago the strenuous efforts of Congressman Hull to secure rural free delivery for the towns on this island, resulted in the despatch of Special Agent Smith to this city to investigate the field. The outlook proved satisfactory and he paid another visit to this locality for the purpose of instituting the system at the South Portsmouth office. Routes were laid out and the selection of carriers approved. All details for the commencement of the service being completed, it was ordered to be commenced January 2 last. With the thermometer at or near zero the first delivery by the carriers was made, and the service has continued to be more and more appreciated from the start, as the following will show:

The number of pieces of mail handled by carriers during the month of January was in round numbers only 5,000 but through July, August and September the number handled had increased until it reached between 15,000 and 20,000 each month. Although started under rather unfavorable circumstances, it has come to be looked upon not as a luxury or plaything, but this service is now considered by nearly all who are receiving it as almost one of the necessities of life, and whoever should suggest to these people the idea of its discontinuance would surely not meet with a cordial reception. From the experiment, as above set forth, rural free delivery has taken in all this island outside of Newport, and also Tiverton and Little Compton.

### Newton Memorial.

A new memorial window has just been placed in St. Paul's church. It was procured through Tilden & Thurber from Heaton, Butler and Bayne, England, and is a most excellent piece of work, says the Wickford Standard. It is in three sections. The middle and main is the representation of a woman clad in white with one hand resting on a cross of rough wood, while in the other she holds a bunch of Easter lilies. The face and figure are in perfect repose. The upper panel is a figure of a dove symbolizing the Holy Spirit, pouring its effulgence on the form beneath. The lower panel is a cluster of lilies with the words "In the cross of Christ I glory." A brass tablet on the window stool bears the following inscription: "To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Hannah, daughter of John B. and Mary P. Newton."

Three young lads, whose average age is eight years, were arraigned before Judge Baker on Thursday charged with breaking and entering a dwelling house and larceny. They gave their names as David German, William German and Cornelius German. Officer Denman captured them with property stolen from the residence of Charles F. Fairchild on Washington street. When arraigned they pleaded guilty and their cases were continued to next Monday.

Newport Lodge of Elks will hold their annual lodge of sorrow for members deceased during the year on Sunday afternoon, December 3. Mr. J. Stacy Brown will deliver the eulogy and Rev. Henry Morgan Stone will preach the sermon. Trinity church choir will render music.

Tomorrow will be the anniversary of the November blizzard which created such havoc in this vicinity last year. Incidentally it may be remarked that the base tower which was destroyed at the time has not yet been replaced.

The residents of Jamestown are much aroused over the epidemic of thieving which prevails at that place. A number of summer cottages have been broken into and small articles taken.

The Newport Naval Reserve Company gave a very enjoyable social in the state armory on Monday evening, the Harry K. Howard orchestra furnishing the music.

Miss Smith, daughter of Col. Howard Smith, has returned from an extended visit to Europe and will pass the winter with Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Wilbur in Middletown.

According to despatches from Manila the 26th U. S. Infantry has been in another fight with the Filipinos and has had some men wounded. Further details are not obtainable.

Mrs. Annie F. Curley and Mr. Robert M. Boyle were married at St. Mary's church Tuesday morning. Rev. Father Meenan performing the ceremony.

The championship pennant for the short season of the New England league which was awarded to the Newport club has been received in this city.

Mrs. Ella Wilson and Mr. Charles Boldt were married Sunday evening by Chaplain Jones of the training station.

T. J. Moriarty of this city has been granted a patent of a device for locating sunken articles.

Work on the new sidewalks about the city has been suspended for the season and will be resumed in the spring.

### Shell Fish Legislation.

There will undoubtedly be agitation at the next session of the state legislature in favor of a law looking to the better protection of the shell fish industries of the state. Providence wants her oyster beds protected and developed while Newport fishermen are seeking the enactment of more rigid laws in regard to the taking and selling of short lobsters.

Battles from Providence have been in this city this week to influence the Newport fishermen to unite with those from Providence in a petition for legislation which shall affect both the lobster and oyster industries. The principal feature of the proposed law affecting the lobster fishermen will be fixing the minimum length at 10 1/2 inches, in conformity with the Massachusetts law, and appointing a commissioner and deputies to see to the enforcement of the law. It is proposed to abolish the present board of five members who comprise the commissioners of inland fisheries and appoint one commissioner who shall have a practical knowledge of the fish.

An attempt will be made to organize the Newport fishermen in favor of the proposed legislation.

### Early Morning Fire.

An alarm of fire from Box 51 shortly before four o'clock Wednesday morning called the department to the residence at 36 Dearborn street where a dark blaze was in progress. Although the flames were confined to the interior of the building, the fire proved a stubborn one and it was some time before the engines were ordered back to their houses.

The fire originated from a defective stove pipe leading through several rooms out to the roof. The damage amounted to \$1,000 fully covered by insurance. The house was owned and occupied by Mrs. Catherine McGrath, and this is the second time that the building has taken fire from the same cause.

Congressman Hull has interested himself in an effort to obtain for Newport one of the captured Spanish cannon to place on the mall in Washington square. The application to the secretary of the navy has been received favorably and it is probable that the cannon will be received. The department is willing to donate the cannon provided the city will pay the expenses of handling and freightage. The matter will probably be submitted to the next meeting of the city council.

An effort is being made to have the new fortifications at Jamestown named Fort Wetherell in honor of Captain Alexander Macomb Wetherell, 6th U. S. Infantry, who was killed while leading his company at the charge on San Juan Hill. Mrs. Wetherell spends her summers in Jamestown and lives near the new fort. Congressman Hull has been requested to use his influence in favor of the proposed name.

At the annual meeting of the Society for Gospel Work in Trinidad held in the United Congregational church on Monday evening, a letter was read from Rev. Edgar S. Kilpatrick, formerly pastor of the Second Baptist Church of this city, describing the condition and needs of the work in Trinidad.

Governor Dyer has ordered a salute of minute guns fired by the artillery organizations of the state from two to three o'clock this afternoon, when the funeral of the late Vice President Garret A. Hobart takes place. The gun-squad of the Newport Artillery will comply with this order.

Work on the new city hall has progressed so far that the timbers and planking for the roof are being placed in position. The stone work would appear to be about completed, with the exception of the portico at the Broadway entrance.

It is reported that Miss Daisy Post met with a serious accident while driving at the residence of Fred W. Vanderbilt at Hyde Park, N. Y., on Tuesday. Strict secrecy is observed about the Vanderbilt residence.

The Sanctuary Society of St. Joseph's parish gave the first of a series of whist parties in Hazard Memorial Hall on Wednesday evening and the entertainment proved a success from every standpoint.

Mr. A. Hildreth of this city left last night to spend Thanksgiving with his daughter, Mrs. George Hall, in New York. Mr. Hall, the husband, is sergeant of the Park police in Greater New York.

Mr. A. E. Burdall, who recently resigned the superintendency of the Newport Illuminating Company and started in business for himself, has erected a hand-out electric sign at the Opera House.

Mr. and Mrs. George R. Chase are enjoying a visit to East Haverhill, N. H.

### Supreme Court.

November Session Was Completed on Thursday.

The common pleas division of the supreme court met Monday morning for the third week of the November session. Benjamin Hall, Jr., vs. New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad was presented for trial. This was an action to recover \$200 damages for infringement of the plaintiff's right of way. It appeared from the evidence of the plaintiff that a right of way existed across the defendant company's tracks to his farm and that the company had kept planking between the rails from the time the road was built until the spring of the present year when repairs to the track were made and the planking was not replaced. Plaintiff told of damage to his horse and wagon by driving across the rails and asked for damages. The jury was taken to the premises to view them before the taking of testimony began. Judge Douglas charged the jury, going carefully into the legal status of a right of way and the course to be pursued on evidence of its obstruction. The jury retired and returned a verdict of \$150 for plaintiff. Exceptions were noted by counsel for defendant and the case may be carried to the appellate division.

Charles Wigenhauser vs. Charles F. Frisch was next called. This was an action to recover on a promissory note. It appeared that the defendant gave plaintiff two notes for \$200 each, one payable in three months and one in six months. The first note was paid and some payments were made on the second, but it was not paid in full. The defendant claimed that there was an account due him from plaintiff which more than offset the balance due on the note, in fact leaving a balance of \$23.15 in his favor. The case was given to a jury, which later reported that they could not agree on a verdict. They were directed to consider the matter further and upon again reporting that they could not agree, were discharged.

In Percy A. Austin vs. Appoline J. P. Sherman, defendant submitted to judgment in the sum of \$60.00.

At the session on Wednesday, Margaret Raftery of Tiverton, charged with being a common raider and brawler, was given a hearing. This was an appeal from the sentence of the district court. The defendant threw herself on the mercy of the court and was sentenced to six months in the Providence county jail.

Samuel Schwartz vs. Richard Dugan was a civil suit for damages for an alleged assault, said to have been committed by defendant last May. Mr. Frank F. Nolan appeared for plaintiff and J. Stacy Brown for defendant. The plaintiff told the story of the assault, stating that it was two months before he recovered from the effects. Counsel for defendant admitted the assault and asked that nominal damages be assessed. The jury retired and brought in a verdict for \$1,000 for plaintiff. An appeal will probably be taken on the ground that the amount is excessive.

James Mead was brought in on a capias and remanded to jail, his case being sent back to the lower court for sentence.

In Charles E. Borden vs. Orin P. Barker, et al., judgment was entered in the sum of \$500 and costs, and in John B. Allan's sons vs. Orin P. Barker, judgment for \$100.51.

The court proceedings on Thursday were devoted to hearing the petition of the Newport Water Works to condemn land for water purposes in Portsmouth and Middletown. Messrs. William P. Sheffield and William P. Sheffield, Jr., represented the petitioners and Judge Baker and Col. Honeys appeared in opposition. Mr. Norman G. Weaver told of the necessity for additional reservoirs and said that the proposed reservoir near the Hanging Rocks was abandoned because the company was enjoined from constructing it in accordance with its plans. Mr. Weaver gave some interesting figures in regard to water consumption in this city. The consumption of water by years has been as follows: 1899, 347,000,000 gallons; 1900, 395,130,501; 1901, 334,193,703; 1902, 328,710,189; 1903, 303,187,503 (same); 1904, 333,833. The increase this year is due to the extreme drought, the consumption being estimated at 915,000,000. The present capacity of the reservoirs is approximately as follows: Hanging Rocks, from 33,000,000 to 40,000,000 gallons; Portsmouth, 250,000,000; upper Easton's pond, 350,000,000; lower Easton's pond, 250,000,000, or about 500,000,000 gallons.

After Mr. Weaver finished his testimony, the condemnation was deemed necessary and a decree was prepared accordingly. George C. Carr of Jamestown, Lewis L. Shummons of Newport, and S. Gilman Bowen of Tiverton were appointed a commission to assess damages.

Shortly after twelve o'clock the court adjourned to meet according to law.

Newport conclave, K. S. F., paid a fraternal visit to New Bedford Thursday evening, being the guests of Gasconade Conclave of that city.

### The Ledyard Will Case.

The parties to the litigation over the will of Mrs. Henry B. Ledyard have arrived at an amicable agreement, by the terms of which the two daughters of the testator, Mrs. Spencer Ledyard and Mrs. Frank Goddard will share equally in the estate. This was the intention of the original will, but a codicil added on the day that the will was drawn, gave to Mrs. Spencer Ledyard a much greater interest in the estate than to Mrs. Goddard. The two sons, Messrs. Lewis Cass Ledyard and Henry B. Ledyard took up the case in behalf of Mrs. Goddard and urged the probate of a former will. The present settlement will end all litigation on this account, although there is a matter regarding payments before the death of the testator which will probably be settled in the courts.

### 26th Loses Men.

The 26th Regiment has again been under fire at Holo. The report says: Col. Carpenter started during the night of Nov. 20, and opened with battery G of the 6th artillery at daybreak, Nov. 21, on the trenches. The enemy volleyed as the artillery took up a position, wounding four of our men.

Two companies of the 26th regiment, garrisoning Japo, moved through Capaz, attacking the enemy on the right flank, just north of Japo, at daybreak, Nov. 21, driving them toward Colonel Carpenter.

The 26th regiment companies returned to Japo after the flank movement, having captured three 6-pound smooth-bore cannon and a quantity of arms and ammunition. The enemy's loss was not obtainable, but seven men were found dead in one trench.

Charles O. Ballou, department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic of Rhode Island, accompanied by other officers of the department, paid an official visit to Gen. G. K. Warren post of this city Thursday evening. After the transaction of business a social evening was passed with music and speaking. Among the speakers were Department Commander Ballou, Junior Department Commander Morse, Captain H. C. Taylor, Colonel Herbert Bliss, Captain Wilcox, Rev. Mr. Boardman and Rev. Mr. Fleming.

The Ladies Aid Society of the First Presbyterian church tendered a reception to Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Whitefield Mead in the vestry of the church on Thursday evening. There was a large attendance and the evening was passed very pleasantly. A very pleasing musical programme was rendered, consisting of vocal solos by Miss Jesamine Chase, Miss Sadie Bailey and Mr. Albin of Middletown, after which refreshments were served.

At the present time there is considerable building being done about the city and much more is in prospect. Those who are now building residences or considering such a step will find that the catalogue of the Crocker Mautel and The Company of Providence contains many valuable suggestions. It is free for the asking and as a special sale is now being held this is the time to look into it. Their advertisement appears in another column.

Capt. H. C. Taylor, U. S. N., who commanded the Indiana during the late war, delivered an interesting address before the Young Men's Christian Association Thursday evening, describing the work of the navy during the war and telling how the Y. M. C. A. organizations had assisted in making such a navy possible.

The Rogers High School football team has established a good record thus far this season. Out of ten games played the school has won seven, tied one and lost only two. In every instance with only one exception, the games have been with teams of heavier weight than that from the High School.

Miss Annie T. Gilpin entertained last evening at the residence of her father on John street the teachers of the Lenthall and Carey schools at a whist party, as a birthday observance. The occasion was a very enjoyable one.

At a special session of the appellate division of the supreme court before Judge Douglas on Thursday, Freda Schmidt was granted a divorce from Adam Schmidt and given the custody of her minor child.

The new sidewalks are being warmly commended by all who have occasion to walk over them. This sidewalk appropriation is one of the best investments the city ever made.

A still alarm of fire called the emergency corps to the Geo. A. Weaver Co.'s establishment on Broadway Wednesday afternoon where an incipient blaze was in progress in the seed department.

Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt will give a Thanksgiving dinner to the newslays of the city this year as usual.

Government tug Rocket at the Training station is to be sold at auction.

### Middletown.

COURT OF PROBATE.—The regular session of the Court of Probate was held on Monday afternoon when action was taken on the following named estates. Isaac Libella Sherman, as executor of the will of Cornelia J. Sherman and as administrator on the estate of Cornelia E. Sherman, presented inventories of their estates, which were allowed and ordered recorded.

On the petition of John B. DeBlais the last will and testament of William H. Bailey was admitted to record and said petitioner as sole executor, was granted letters testamentary on his estate and required to give bond in the sum of \$200, with Henry D. DeBlais, Jr., as surety, for the payment of the debts of his testator.

George Alfred Whitman presented his petition for the approval of his choice of John B. Taylor of Little Compton as the guardian of his estate, when petition was referred to the third Monday of December and notice ordered thereon.

IS TOWN COUNCIL.—Accounts were allowed and ordered paid from the town treasury, to the amount of \$8,027.75, all but \$35.25 of this amount being for the construction and repair of roads. Included in these orders were the following: J. Overton Peckham, partial payment on contract for stoning 1,000 feet of the East Main road, \$812.97.

Balance on contract for stoning 703 feet of the West Main road, \$145.77.

Partial payment on contract for stoning 886 feet on Quaker Avenue, \$300.

Partial payment on contract for stoning 310 feet on Bliss road, \$601.18.

William J. Peckham, partial payment on contract for stoning 375 feet of the Wyatt road, \$357.40.

C. Henry Congdon, surveyor, for reports on the highways of District No. 2, \$110.40.

William J. Peckham, for 21 cords of stone furnished for extra work done on the Wyatt road, \$21.00.

Charles A. Peckham, for repairing railing against bridge in Wyatt road, \$24.85.

Nathaniel Peckham, services as moderator, \$10.00.

T. F. Pimman, for advertising \$300 reward, \$5.00.

William H. Lawton, services as engineer, \$79.00.

John D. Blair, bounty on minks and skunks, \$7.75.

Accounts for the relief of the poor, \$25.50.

MIDDLETOWN FREE LIBRARY.—A meeting of the Middletown Free Library Association has been notified to be held at the Cliphant school-house on Monday evening, at half past seven o'clock, to devise ways and means of caring for and preserving the library of this association. For the past twelve years, the library which now includes upwards of 1,500 volumes, has been kept in a private building, which the owners have requested shall soon be vacated. During the last five years the books of the library have circulated only to a limited extent, owing to the lack of funds to defray incidental expenses and compensate the services of a librarian. This library, for several years succeeding 1875, received an annual contribution of books from the State Board of Education, and was one of the first libraries to obtain the aid of the state, provided for in the act of the General Assembly passed about twenty-five years ago. From lack of local interest and effort, no appropriation from the state has been sought for a number of years and the whole undertaking permitted to lapse into its present unsatisfactory condition. The foundation of this library reaches as far back as 1848, and was first incorporated in 1850.

### Tiverton.

A pleasant social time was passed Friday evening, Nov. 17, in the vestry of the Central Baptist Church. Piano solos, vocal solos, duets and recitations made up the first part of the programme. The second part was a zoological game illustrated on a blackboard, in which Mrs. Arthur Manchester was the recipient of the first prize and Mr. Samuel Hatch the booty prize. Refreshments were served at the close of the evening. There was a large company present.

Posters are out advertising bids for a town farm keeper.

Nonquit George P. of H., held its regular meeting in Grange Hall Wednesday evening, when six candidates were instructed in the first and second degrees of the order. One application for membership was received.

Perry Chase of Fall River has sold to Manuel Silvia of Tiverton the dwelling house and land on Puncatuck Neck formerly owned by the late Gleason Wilcox.

A number of the fishing steamers belonging to the American Fisheries Co., are anchored in Narragansett Bay making a very picturesque scene.

Mrs. Elizabeth Coggeshall, wife of Abner Coggeshall, died at her home Tuesday, aged 87 years. She had been ill for some time. Mrs. Coggeshall was the third oldest woman in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Potter left town Wednesday to reside in East Providence.

Mr. J. Charles Cook with his family have removed to the Sidney Bateman farm on Puncatuck Neck.

### Real Estate Transactions.

Simeon Hazard has sold for the heirs of the late John Goggin their estate on Holland street to Patrick Lyons and wife. This property comprises a two tenement house and lot and is bounded northerly on Holland street 40 ft; westerly on land of Catherine O'Flaherty 43 ft; southerly on land of Sarah E. D. Anderson 10 ft; and easterly on land of Daniel Harrington 43 ft.

Simeon Hazard has rented for Peter Faeler the upper half of his house at 15 Clinton avenue, to James P. Wetherell.

Simeon Hazard has sold for the estate of John Goggin the two tenement house and lot at 25 Holland street to Patrick J. Lyons and wife.







train is Pullman drawing room sleeping car New York to Tampa via Sanford and Winter Park, and to Miami and Augusta.





## Selected Tale.

### Yusuf Bey's Sofa Cushion.

Selim Effendi was hard up for cash. As a registry clerk in the Consular Bureau at the Sheikh of Islam's office in old Istanbul he had a salary of \$7.50 a month. His salary had been fixed under a prevalent theory that a live clerk would discover how to gain \$25 or \$30 a month in presents from the candidates for appointment as preacher, for these candidates are always in a terrible hurry for their papers. Selim Effendi also had converted this theory into a shrewd and pitiless practice. He had been lucky, too. Through the kindness of his friend and patron, Yusuf Bey, he had obtained a life annuity of two rods of white bread per day from the Fund for the Encouragement of Theologians, and through his own foresight he had composed a laudatory poem on a great state occasion which won for him a life annuity of \$3.50 a month from the Fund for Praying Saints. But his sanguine temperament made his expenses discount his luck. After paying the cost of keeping up appearances, for the keep of his house and the wages of his groom, for the schooling of his boys and the hire of servants to attend him to the school, and for the silks and odd bits of jewelry which his wife expected out of any particularly fat day, Selim Effendi regularly felt the necessity of Fortune at the end of each month. His luck then was to find no money in his pocket to pay the butcher, the baker and the grocer, who seem to prefer to sell on credit in old Istanbul.

One day the baker, standing in a side street in front of Selim Effendi's closed door, and using that painfully loud tone common to the Constantinople bakers who take bread and do not pay for it, then Selim Effendi saw that something must be done. He might change his baker, but this means of relief had already been resorted to, and the poor clerk's favorite nightmare was a vision of the man who had formerly enjoyed the privilege of supplying him with bread coming forward at some particularly unflattering time and place to create a scene by his hawking. Turks loathe scenes. So Selim Effendi had to pay cash. Then he thought of his old friend Yusuf Bey, the subchief of the Land Office.

Yusuf Bey was best seen for private affairs at his house. In the morning, where he was still comfortably lounging, barefooted and bareheaded, in his white cotton underclothing and the flannel shirt robe known in Turkey as a nightdress. In this airy attire he received Selim Effendi with the cordiality shown by a man who has seen life to one who has helped him to see it. He winced a little on noting the solemnity with which, in answer to his inquiry, Selim Effendi said: "I am well, to God be the glory," for by such slight tokens the Turkish official foresees the purpose of a private call in the morning. So he skillfully thrust the conversation into distant political channels, whence his visitor would find it hard to return in any short time to questions of unimportant interest. They discussed the Russian indemnity, the new grand vizier's low origin, and the "words which cook no dinners" where-with in Egypt England was showing friendship to Turkey. Then Yusuf Bey thoughtlessly described a most delightful lake of red mullet in oil, to which his cook had introduced him a day or two before. This was Selim Effendi's opportunity.

"Ah, Yusuf Bey, my lamb!" said he. "You will understand my sufferings as you speak, when you learn that for months I have not so much as seen the bloom of a red mullet on my table. The grocer and the baker leave me no chance to say aught to butcher or fishmonger. The pressure which my baker puts upon me would squeeze juice out of rock. And my children! They are ragged as Lazarus the Jew! Every night I take refuge in the coffee shop from their clamor for clothes."

"Keep up your courage, Selim. However high a mountain is, be sure that its peak can be found. Of course happy candidates are out your salary."

"Yes, but some misbegotten wretch has appointed that leggy Sami Effendi supernumerary under my desk. He takes part. You can make the pass over my mountain of poverty. Have pity on me, Yusuf Bey! I will kiss your feet! Lend me \$3 and you will raise me from the dead. It is November and there are still wood and coal and other necessities to be provided for my children. Be kind to me! I will make many, many prayers for you."

"Do you not suppose that I know the bitterness of such a condition as yours? But in these days salary does not come out of the Treasury more than twice in the year."

"Ah! but in the Land Office there is always money. Be merciful to me. After God, you are my only hope! In six months I will have money coming to me, and your loan will be the first thing to be paid. I will never forget your beneficence. I will pray God daily to give you great opportunities."

"See here, my friend, do not break my heart with entreaty. A man's flesh cannot be eaten, his skin cannot be made into leather, and what is he good for if not to help his fellows? Come back tomorrow morning, and we will see what can be done."

The next morning Selim Effendi appeared at Yusuf Bey's house again, and was received with louche courtesy. The two men smoked cigarettes and sipped black coffee, while the conversation rolled easily from politics to the latest palace scandals, and from scandals to the appointments gazetted in the morning papers. At last Selim Effendi said:

"Yesterday you were good enough to give me hope. If I have found favor—"

"Yes, yes," interrupted Yusuf Bey. "Your children are in need, and you want \$3, which you will repay in six months. If there is any there I will lend it to you. Just turn up the end of the cushion on which you are sitting, and see if there is anything there."

Selim Effendi lifted the end of the sofa cushion, and behold on the matting under it lay three shining pieces of gold. With a quick clutch he thrust them into his pocket, saying: "O my benefactor! You have extended my days! Day and night I shall pray God to reward you a thousandfold."

He made a plunge at the skirt of Yusuf Bey's robe to kiss it. Yusuf tried to draw away the robe, and so Selim Effendi got hold of his head and pressed it to his lips and to his forehead with an appearance of great emotion. For Selim was punctilious in outward practice of decorum. Then, saying: "May God be content with you! May God give you all success!" he went away.

It chanced to be characteristic of Selim Effendi that his present emotions often lagged behind the mental effort to express them in response to some twinge of conscience. Such a habit

makes a well-balanced course in life far more easy than where the emotion comes first, and forces the outburst of hot words and perhaps of hasty action which reveals it. But it had with Selim the curious result that to express a good intention carried with it a glow of self-commendation. This in turn made the effort to express the intention in vigorous words vaguely impress his mind like labor to execute it. After an ardent declaration of purpose, therefore, nothing remained to be done but to embody it in memory as a good deed completed. By the time that he reached the street after leaving his friend, his mind felt no reminder of need to pay his debts, and to provide for the coming winter. The only thing that pressed was to silence the baker by giving him a pound or so, together with certain unavailing epithets due to a man who posters for money Government officials occupied with graver matters than a baker's ledger accounts. The rest of Yusuf Bey's three pounds followed the easy going rule of many windfalls of wealth. "God is good," said Selim to himself, as he bought a gilt watch chain and some theatre tickets. "If I have luck with the Roumanian Railway lottery, I will then get the winter supplies, and Yusuf shall have his money back, too."

Six months passed, then a year. Selim Effendi was still hard up for cash, and the loan was still unpaid. By foresight and alertness he succeeded in avoiding his friend. Then he met him unexpectedly face to face. Yusuf Bey was cordial as usual and said nothing about money. They met several times in the same friendly way. Little by little Selim learned to say to himself: "This man has so much money that he does not know what he had two years ago. Why should I remember what he has forgotten? What God has put in my way I must accept with thanksgiving. Let it be up, and it is gone. That is the end of it."

In 1894 a great earthquake shook to its foundations the city of Constantinople. It cracked the walls of houses and brought down about the ears of the shopkeepers in the bazaar huge masses of antique masonry. "Yusuf has forgotten the affair of three years ago," said Selim to himself, "and this time I will certainly repay him."

So he again called upon Yusuf Bey in the early hours of privilege, when the great man was still reclining upon the divan of comfort, dressed in his white underclothing and his chintz night robe. After the usual skittishness around the horizon, Selim came to the central point of his thoughts by saying: "May God spare you, my friend, from such damage as the earthquake did to us. The brook which I thought would not wet my ankles has gone over my head."

"Oh, you want to borrow \$3 again," said Yusuf Bey, smiling. "Well, come tomorrow morning, and we shall see what we can do. A man is not worth much unless he is of use to his friends." Selim was astonished at his easy success. The word "again" stabbed his conscience. The former loan was not forgotten. Yet he had been told as before to come the next morning. It must be that Yusuf Bey was one of those men who overlook faults and do good deeds as treasure laid up in heaven.

The next morning the psychological moment came for delicately hinting that he would like an answer to his request. Selim somehow felt himself to be trembling. But Yusuf Bey, as before, told him to look under the sofa cushion upon which he was sitting. Selim raised the end of the cushion with a smiling face. The bare matting alone met his eyes! The man was so astonished that involuntarily he said: "Plague take it, there is nothing here!" "Nothing there?" said Yusuf Bey. "Look well. Are you sure that they haven't slipped further back under the cushion?"

"No," replied Selim, tugging to lift the heavy cushion. "There is nothing here but some dust and a spider."

"Well, well!" said Yusuf Bey. "It must be that you forgot to put them back! If you had put them back the other time they would certainly be there now. I am truly sorry not to help you; but you see for yourself that there is nothing there."

For a moment Selim's mind was paralyzed. Then as the meaning of Yusuf Bey's words dawned upon him he made a profound salutation and went away. He had taken one step in his education. The story of "The Movement of Wheat,"—certainly a story that does not lack for large and romantic incidents—will be told, with abundant illustrations, in McClure's Magazine for December, by Ray Stannard Baker. In gathering his material, Mr. Baker made a careful tour of the great wheat farms, the great elevators, and the great exchanges, besides carefully studying the documents and statistics of the Agricultural Department. James Barnes, now the recognized authority on all the historic phases of American history, has written for the December number of McClure's Magazine the romantic story of Colonel John Laurens' special mission to France in 1781. It is a story that has almost never been told; yet Laurens' mission is believed to have been the one thing that saved the cause of American Independence at a moment when it seemed to be lost. The article will be fully illustrated by Howard Pyle. McClure's Magazine for December will have an inside view of "The Impairment of Andrew Johnson," being an account of the historic trial and all its circumstances by Senator George S. Boutwell, who was himself one of the official managers of the trial.

It was a Maine graveyard and the fence thereon was in a most respectable condition.

Some of the neighbors were trying to start a movement to remove the cemetery, and it was meeting with general approval till the cattle wit of Darius Howard was aroused.

"What for?" he inquired. "What's the need of fencing the graveyard? There ain't no one inside that wants to come out and I'm darn sure that there ain't any one outside that wants to get in. So what's the need of the fence?"

And the fence was not built till folks had ceased to chuckle over the threat of Darius—Lexington Evening Journal.

Recent investigations prove that eighty-three percent of all the grain flour lies further down than 1,000 fathoms, or one mile below the surface, twenty-one percent lies between one and two miles; fifty-five percent, lies between two and three miles; and seven percent, is known to be further down than three miles.

Glimmering phosphorescent lights play an important part in the activities and strategies going on in the deep sea. Phosphorescent organs appear sometimes to act as ball's-eye lanterns to enable the monsters possessing them to pick up food in their midnight underworld, and at other times serve as lures or a warning to other species.

### Their Trick Failed.

A certain young teacher, whom we will call Mr. Smith, had just been elevated to the position of principal of a country school. As he was youthful in appearance and not accustomed to presiding over so many pupils, he found the position rather trying. It was his custom every morning to call the school to order by a couple of sharp raps upon the floor with a long pointer which always stood against his desk against the platform. One morning, promptly at 8, he was at his place on the rostrum and it seemed to his sensitive soul that the air was full of excitement. He was about to pick up the pointer to call the school to order as usual, when it suddenly struck him that that was not altogether a dignified action. "If I cannot bring them to order," he thought to himself, "with the sound of my own voice, it's time I found it out."

"Order!" he said sternly. Instantly an amazed hush fell upon the school, and he was himself astonished at the wonderful effect of the one word. After school was over, a half dozen of the older boys came up to him.

"How did you ever find it out, Professor?" inquired one. "I am sure none of us boys could have told you, and I do not see how anybody on the outside could have found it out."

The professor, of course, did not know what they were talking about, but he did not choose to display his ignorance, so he replied calmly:

"Oh! I have my own secret service system, and be sure nothing escapes me."

After everyone had departed and Professor Smith was left alone ready to leave for his home he sat himself down before his desk to think the thing out. "What have I done today," he said to himself, "that is different from the usual order of things?" Then it struck him that he had not used the pointer as usual to call for order. Jumping up he picked up the long stick that lay in its accustomed place and examined it critically. There was a little knob at one end, and as he looked at it closely he saw something that cleared the mystery. A large torpeda had been neatly glued to the bottom.

"Well, that was a lucky escape," said the Professor to himself. "If that trick had worked I never should have been able to maintain my dignity."

Ever afterward the boys had the utmost respect for the professor, and he was generally credited with having eyes in the back of his head. Mr. Smith is now principal of a large college, and is very fond of telling his friends of the narrow escape his dignity once had.

### Death and the Doctor.

Death and the doctor met at the door.

"Well, I've got him!" exclaimed Death, triumphantly.

"The doctor was furious, of course."

"Oh, yes," he cried with much heat, "but you didn't dare make a square issue of it and get him with the disease I was treating him for!"

Hereupon Death laughed affixedly, saying nothing.—Detroit Journal.

### Pro Bono Publico.

"Is there anything else any member wishes to offer for the good of the public and the citizens of this great community?" asked the pompous president of the board of aldermen, after that body had voted to allow the grab of the franchise by the new street car company.

"I move we adjourn!" shouted the leader of the minority.—Puck.

### Before and After.

"I can't understand it, Timothy. You seem fairly saturated with pessimism. And yet, before you took me for better or worse, your face was wreathed with smiles, and you seemed as light-hearted as a merry boy."

"Yes, Jane. It's another case of before and after taking!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### Self Justification.

"England persists in the contention that its motives are entirely philanthropic."

"Well," answered Oom Paul, severely, "so are mine. I want to see if I can't get up a good Rhodes movement in South Africa."—Washington Star.

### Overheard in Garden of Eden.

Eve—I want you to understand that I am running this ranch.

Adam—Oh, I don't know. It seems to me you're only a side issue.—Philadelphia Record.

Nothing is more incomprehensible to European waiters than the American custom of breaking eggs in a glass. Chauncey M. Depew likes to follow the American custom, and one day the waiter at the Hotel de Russie, in Paris, told him he mustn't do it. There was a dispute and the head waiter was called.

"The glasses cannot be properly washed," it was explained. "They are tainted." "Nonsense," said Mr. Depew. "My servants at home do it every day in the year. Use a little more elbow grease." Then Mr. Depew broke his egg into the glass, as usual, and the waiter watched him. When the glass was set aside he came with a dustpan, cracked the glass on his boot heel and disappeared with the fragments.

The charge for the glass was \$1.00. Mr. Depew's bill, and he refused to pay for it. He was too good a customer to make angry, so the hotel people smiled. They knew that Mrs. Depew was going to remain a week longer.

A broken egg glass was ingeniously worked into her bill, and she paid for it, but Mr. Depew didn't know it for many months afterward, when he was telling the story of an instance of his services in counteracting the extortions of European hotel keepers.

It is reported from Sierra Leone that those who are engaged in investigating the mosquito theory of malaria in that district found a swarm of kerosene oil, as an experiment, upon a puddle about a square yard in area, floating on which were numbers of Anopheles larvae, with the result that after six hours all the larvae were found to be dead.

Fuddy—Hilton went home the other day and found the house empty. He thought he wouldn't tell his wife he had been at home, but she found it out the moment she entered the house.

Daddy—Let the pantry door open or forget to close a window, or something of that sort?

Freddy—No. He sat down on a chair for a moment, and of course he missed the fly in his usual way.—Boston Transcript.

### A Chinese Bedroom.

According to our notions, the sleeping apartments of even the well-to-do Chinese are neither comfortable nor convenient. The rooms themselves, even in the houses of the wealthy, are unusually dark and poorly ventilated, and often are nothing more than inside cupboards.

The bedstead, which is made of wood, is high, has a tall canopy, and, in most instances, is very heavy and most ornately carved. It frequently stands in an alcove, as if to multiply completely the benefit of the little fresh air that might possibly slip in through the door. I have seen some magnificent specimens of cabinet work in bedsteads that have been handed down from father to son for several generations, and that, because of their massiveness, proved to last for many more.

They use no springs, nor is there a mattress to soften the hard boards. A single mat is spread in place of a mattress and for covering they sometimes supplement their ordinary clothing with a padded quilt. In winter extra clothing is put on and in the extreme north, where the weather is bitterly cold, there is found in the residences of the well-to-do and in those of a divan of masonry, varying in size, beneath which are fireplaces. On this the household sleeps and the fire is utilized for cooking purposes.

For pillows hollow square frames of rattan or bamboo are used, frequently just a block of wood the right height to fit into the nape of the neck and give support to the head when lying on one side. These are by no means so uncomfortable as the description sounds; indeed, in warm weather, after one becomes accustomed to them, they are preferable to a soft, hot feather pillow or bolster.

Sometimes, but not often, the bed-chamber is used through the day as a sitting room, when the mat and covers are rolled up and pushed to the back of the bedstead to furnish a seat on the boards along its edge. A high seat, straight back, uncomfortable seat or stool, a wooden settle, a bedside table, perhaps a wardrobe, and possibly a wash-stand with its equipments, complete, with some exceptions, the list of furniture.

### Flags For Grant's Tomb.

For some time a movement has been on foot to secure battleflags of all the regiments which served under General Grant during the civil war, and to have them placed in the alcoves of the Grant tomb at Riverside Park. The work has been undertaken at the request of the trustees of the Grant Monument Association, and every State has been asked to contribute flags, which, however, will remain the property of the State.

The flags are to be placed in air-tight glass cases, which have been made under the direction of the architect of the monument. Some of the cases are already in place. A cage of steel about each case will protect the flags from thieves and souvenir collectors. A few States have thus far complied with the request, owing to the fact that the consent of the Legislatures must be received before the flags can be delivered.

Two flags have been received from Ohio, two from Missouri, and one from the Army of the Tennessee. Iowa has promised to make contributions. One of the Missouri flags was obtained through the efforts of Mr. E. D. Townsend, general passenger agent of the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

New York State was asked to comply and a bill was introduced into the Legislature last winter, but it was opposed by the Grand Army of the Republic, and was defeated. The nature of the bill was misand, and at the time, it is said, and the feeling in regard to the matter has changed. Many of the flags are tattered, discolored and so flimsy that they are almost ready to fall to pieces. Some of them remained in possession of the Union troops as a result of a sacrifice of much life. The collection will prove highly interesting to visitors to the tomb.—New York Mail and Express.

### A Veteran in the Service.

Mrs. Neighbors—How do you like your new servant girl?

Mrs. Suburban—Why, we haven't any new servant girl. Oargh! has been with us for nearly four days.—Chicago News.

### No Distance Specified.

Swelldign—You say you'll guarantee this horse to trot in 2:40?

Horse Dealer—Yes, sir.

Swelldign—You mean a mile in 2:40? Horse Dealer—Well, I didn't name any distance, sir, but he'll go as far as he can in 2:40.—Ohio State Journal.

"Why have the Newbrocks lost their prestige in society? For a time they were very prominent. Now they seem to be shunned."

"Oh! haven't you heard? Why they applied for membership in the Order of the Crown, setting up the claim that they were descended from Queen Elizabeth. The specialist who furnished their pedigree appears to have been a joker, in his way, and there is sure to be trouble for him when they find out the truth."

"Well, mamma, what have you been doing all day?" asked a little boy of his mother.

"Oh, sunny, I've been mending the whole day."

"No, you haven't," the youngster replied, "for if the day was whole it wouldn't need mending."—The Philadelphia Call.

The vicar of a South London church school, having finished his Scripture lesson the other day, congratulated the top class on a coming holiday, finishing with the expression of a hope that each boy would "return with cleaner and better brains." He was somewhat taken aback with the universal response of "Same to you, sir!"—London Board Teacher.

A certain lady sat up till twelve o'clock the other night waiting for her husband to come home. At last, weary and worn out she went to her bedroom to retire and found the missing husband there fast asleep. Instead of going down town he had gone to his room. She was so mad that she wouldn't speak to him for a week.—Woman's Life.

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Flapless Henderson—I didn't want nothing to eat nor wear. I just called to see if you had an old automobile to give away.—Indianapolis Journal.

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